

Southeast PTO Meeting Minutes- February 1, 2016

Attendance- Erin Christopher, Erin Clark, Noreen Halbrooks, Sheralyn Sibilia, Laura Kravet, Alison McKenzie, Jennifer Mott, Mel O'Donovan, Jon Sgro, Lauren Rodriguez, Esther Soffer-Roberts, Lena Rossi

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm by Erin Clark

1. Wrap Up Discussion-

Harlem Wizards- the Vinton, Goodwin and Southeast PTO'PTA's met to finalize event details. The event sold out, 800 tickets were sold. Per Superintendent Kelly Lyman's suggestion holding this event every other year event is best. The consensus was that EO Smith H.S. was too crowded. Gampel Pavilion is an idea for a future alternative venue but this needs to be looked into. Another possibility is ECSU, which can hold 3,000 people and the cost is about \$400 a day to rent their space. Southeast raised \$2398 from this event. This does not include money still being donated from the local restaurants on game night.

Cocoa & Cultural Craft night- This was a fun event and a special thank you is extended to all the parents that offered to make crafts.

2. Upcoming Fundraisers and Events-

Game Night is March 4th in the multipurpose room. This is an opportunity for families to come together to play games they bring. Food/drink will not be provided.

Munson's- Fundraising sheets with instructions went home in Friday folders on 1/29.

3. Update- "Food too Good to Waste" invitation- Mrs. Sangree's 4th grade class is participating in the program and will have the container in their classroom. Students will track the waste the students produce during snack for a month.

4. Sunshine Fund- The PTO has \$300 in this account. Goodwin has a fund where principal can access it when there is a family in need, it will be anonymous. Principal Rodriguez will get more information about their program. The Southeast staff has its own Sunshine club with bylaws. Demi's cancer has returned and she is going through treatments again. Southeast would like to make a donation to the family. A \$150 Visa card was suggested. Esther made the motion to approve the donation and Sheralyn seconded the motion.

5. Teacher Grant Requests- A form has been revised for this process. The PTO received a request to approve funds for a musical with Ms. Irvine for March's Nutrition month. The request is to purchase a play for \$42 to be used as an example and then students will have a performance. Sheralyn made motion to approve reimbursement of \$42 to Ms. Irvine and Mel seconded the motion.

6. Principal's Report- Principal Rodriguez acknowledged that Mariah Popeleski, a Southeast parent, was recognized in CT Magazine for her work with the Click Program. Mrs. Denise Proffer, special education teacher, will be leaving Southeast on Feb 12th because she has accepted a special education supervisor position in Glastonbury. The interview process for her replacement will start in near future. Technology for K and 1st grade is getting looked at, perhaps some mini iPads or Androids will be added to the classrooms. The K-8 budget was presented last week at the Board of Ed meeting. A 2nd grade teacher is still in the budget to allow for 3 classes. A new paraeducator has started at Southeast. SBAC testing for grades 3 and 4 will take place the first 2 weeks of May, most likely starting on May 3rd. The test will be an hour shorter this year because one assessment has been eliminated by the state. The computerized reading and math STAR assessments for 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade were done midyear and teachers have been reviewing results. Also, the guided reading initiative is in all grade levels this year. A DRA assessment may also be taking place in the classroom. The administration has usually found a good correlation between STAR test results and SBAC results. Rupal Jain, a former Southeast student, works at Harvard on coding. She has volunteered to run two evening sessions for families in February. Scratch is a tool she will use. Dates will be available soon.

7. Treasurer's Report- Noreen Halbrooks reviewed the Treasurer's report. The T-shirt deficit has been recovered and we are now \$18 over. We are still waiting on Citrus Sale income as well as restaurant income from the Wizards game night.

Other- At the Jan 21st Board of Ed meeting conditions of the schools and building renovations were discussed. Southeast's issues would be the portables and a new boiler. Participants may be needed for committees. The concept of building new school(s) is most likely getting reactivated and we need to keep a watch for meetings and discussions. Participants may be needed for committees. If you are interested please email the PTO or Erin Clark directly. Erin Clark will email Superintendent Kelly Lyman to express our interest in voicing our concerns.

Cards were on display that the PTO received thanking us for the donations we made to the Staff lounge/kitchen as well as the Adopt a Family event and Young Author's Day.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm by Erin Clark

Submitted by Jennifer Mott and Sheralyn Sibilia, Co-Secretaries